



**EMBRACING THE POWER OF CHRISTMAS #3:**

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**Embracing The People of Christmas**

# **EMBRACING THE POWER OF CHRISTMAS #3: Embracing The People of Christmas**

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**1. Joseph and His  
Compassionate Forgiveness of  
Mary Led to His Life-long  
Purpose  
(*Matthew 1:18-25*)**

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**Matt. 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.**

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**19 And her husband Joseph,  
being a just man and  
unwilling to put her to shame,  
resolved to divorce her quietly.**



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**<sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.**



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**21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”**



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**<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:**

**<sup>23</sup> “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel”  
(which means, God with us).**

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**24 When Joseph woke from sleep,  
he did as the angel of the Lord  
commanded him: he took his wife,**





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**25 but knew her not until she  
had given birth to a son. And  
he called his name Jesus.**



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**2. The Shepherds and Their  
Complete Focus on Christ Led  
to Their Life-long Testimonies  
(*Luke 2:8-18*)**



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**Luke 2:8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.**



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**<sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.**



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**<sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them,  
“Fear not, for behold, I bring  
you good news of great joy that  
will be for all the people.**



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**11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.**



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**<sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”**



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**<sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,**

**<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”**





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**<sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”**



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**<sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.**



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***17* And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.**



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**18 And all who heard it  
wondered at what the  
shepherds told them.**



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**3. Simeon and His Incredible  
Commitment to God Led to His  
Seeing Christ...and Prophesying  
Truth  
*(Luke 2:25-35)***

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**Luke 2:25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.**



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**26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.**



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**27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law,**





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**28 he took him up in his arms and  
blessed God and said,**

**29 “Lord, now you are letting your  
servant depart in peace, according  
to your word;**

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**<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen  
your salvation**

**<sup>31</sup>that you have prepared in the  
presence of all peoples,**



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**32 a light for revelation to  
the Gentiles, and for glory  
to your people Israel.”**



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**33 And his father and his  
mother marveled at what  
was said about him.**



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**<sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed**



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**35 (and a sword will pierce through  
your own soul also), so that  
thoughts from many hearts may  
be revealed.”**



Emmanuel  
× GOD WITH US+

